MERCHANT & GOULD

Ø1003/003

App. No. 10/070289 Non-Responsive Office Action Dated October 19, 2004 Response Dated November 17, 2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the Amendment & Response filed on July 12, 2004 and in view of the following remarks. Claims 1, 6-8, 13 and 14 were amended. Claims 7 and 8 were amended to recite "2.5-7 grams of said dry powder of polyacrylamide hydrogel is added to every 100ml volume of said shell", the dry powder of polyacrylamide hydrogel being proportional to the volume of the shell, support is at page 3, lines 3-6. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-14 are pending.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested. Any questions or concerns regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned at (612) 336.4708, or Applicants' primary attorney-of-record, Michael D. Schumann (Reg. No. 30,422), at (612) 336.4638.

Respectfully submitted,

23552

PATENT TRAUEMARK OFFICE

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Dated: November 17, 2004

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Reg. No. 40,443

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